

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A recording apparatus ~~for generating~~ configured to generate an index file for each content file to be recorded to a recording medium, the index file associating attribute information allocated to each content file with real data of said each content file, and ~~recording~~ configured to record the generated index file to the recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

an information adding unit ~~for generating~~ configured to generate a flag indicating a recording state of a content file to be recorded to the recording medium and ~~adding~~ configured to add this the flag to the attribute information,

wherein the information adding unit ~~generates the flag in accordance with~~ is further configured to continuously provide entry areas in which the flag indicating invalidity is set in a physical area in which the index file can be continuously recorded, ~~and to write invalid data in the entry areas~~ before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The recording apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein ~~the physical area includes~~ before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium, ~~the information adding unit generates the flag in accordance with~~ all physical areas in which the index file can be continuously recorded.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The recording apparatus of claim 1, A recording apparatus for generating an index file for each content file to be recorded to a recording medium, the index file associating attribute information allocated to each content file with real data of said each content file, and recording the generated index file to the recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

an information adding unit for generating a flag indicating a recording state of a content file to be recorded to the recording medium and adding this flag to the attribute information;

wherein before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium, the information adding unit generates the flag in accordance with a physical area in which the index file can be continuously recorded, and the information adding unit is also further configured to search the recording medium for a free area in which the index file can be continuously recorded in accordance with the recording state of said each content file with respect to the recording medium, and generates the flag in accordance with to add an entry area in which the flag indicating invalidity is set in the free area thus searched for, and to write invalid data in the added entry area.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The recording apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 3, wherein the information adding unit ~~newly records~~ is configured to newly record the index file, having the attribute information to which the flag ~~generated in accordance with the searched-out free area~~ indicating a recording state of a content file to be recorded to the recording medium is added, to the ~~recording medium~~ added entry area.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A recording method for generating an index file for each content file to be recorded to a recording medium, the method comprising:

the index file associating attribute information allocated to each content file with real data of said each content file, and recording the generated index file to the recording medium, medium;

generating a flag indicating a recording state of a content file to be recorded to the recording medium and adding the flag to the attribute information;

continuously providing entry areas in which the flag indicating invalidity is set in a physical area in which the index file can be continuously recorded; and
writing invalid data in the entry areas before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium;
a flag indicating a recording state of a content file is generated in accordance with a physical area in which the index file can be continuously recorded, and the flag is added to the attribute information.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The recording method as claimed in of claim 5, wherein the physical area includes before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium, the flag is generated in accordance with all physical areas in which the index file can be continuously recorded.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A The recording method of claim 5, for generating an index file for each content file to be recorded to a recording medium, the index file associating attribute information allocated to each content file with real data of said each content file, and recording the generated index file to the recording medium; comprising:
wherein before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium, a flag indicating a recording state of a content file is generated in accordance with a physical area searching the recording medium for a free area in which the index file can be continuously recorded in accordance with the recording state of said each content file with respect to the recording medium;
adding an entry area in which the flag indicating invalidity is set in the free area thus searched for; and

~~writing invalid data in the added entry area recorded, and this flag is added to the attribute information, and~~

~~the recording medium is searched for a free area in which the index file can be continuously recorded in accordance with the recording state of said each content file with respect to the recording medium, then the flag is generated in accordance with the free area thus searched for, and this flag is added to the attribute information.~~

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The recording method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7, comprising: wherein the

recording the index file, having the attribute information to which the flag indicating a recording state of a content file to be recorded to the recording medium generated in accordance with the searched-out free area is added, is newly recorded to the added entry area recording medium.

Claim 9 (New): The recording apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information adding unit is further configured to extract from the index file the entry areas in which the flag indicating invalidity is set and is configured to newly register a content index file by resetting the flag in the extracted entry area as a valid flag.

Claim 10 (New): The recording apparatus of claim 1, wherein the entry areas in which the flag indicating invalidity are set are property entries to which entry numbers are assigned; the information adding unit is further configured to continuously provide other entry areas corresponding to the entry numbers for each kind of the attribute information and to

write invalid data in the property areas and the other entry areas before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium.

Claim 11 (New): The recording apparatus of claim 10, wherein the information adding unit is further configured to continuously provide the entry areas in all physical areas in which the index file can be continuously recorded.

Claim 12 (New): The recording apparatus of claim 11, wherein the information adding unit is further configured to extract the property entry areas in which the flag indicating invalidity is set and the other entry areas corresponding to the entry numbers from the index file, and to newly register a content index file by resetting the flag in the property extracted entry area as a valid flag.

Claim 13 (New): The recording apparatus of claim 12, wherein the information adding unit is further configured to search the recording medium for a free area in which the index file can be continuously recorded in accordance with the recording state of said each content file with respect to the recording medium, to add a property entry area in which the flag indicating invalidity is set and the other entry area in the free area searched for, and to write an invalid data in the added property entry area and the added other entry area corresponding to the entry number of the added property entry area.

Claim 14 (New): The method of claim 5, comprising:
extracting from the index file the entry areas in which the flag indicating invalidity is set from the index file; and

newly registering a content index file by resetting the flag in the extracted entry area as a valid flag.

Claim 15 (New): The method of claim 5, comprising:
providing other entry areas corresponding to entry numbers for each kind of the attribute information; and
writing an invalid data in the property areas and the other entry areas before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium,
wherein the entry areas in which the flag indicating invalidity are set are property entries to which the entry numbers are assigned.

Claim 16 (New): The method of claim 15, comprising:
providing the entry areas in all physical areas in which the index file can be continuously recorded.

Claim 17 (New): The method of claim 16, comprising:
extracting the property entry areas in which the flag indicating invalidity is set and the other entry areas corresponding to the entry numbers from the index file; and
newly registering a content index file by resetting the flag in the property extracted entry area as a valid flag.

Claim 18 (New): The method of claim 17, comprising:
searching the recording medium for a free area in which the index file can be continuously recorded in accordance with the recording state of said each content file with respect to the recording medium;

adding a property entry area in which the flag indicating invalidity is set and the other entry area in the free area searched for; and

writing an invalid data in the added property entry area and the added other entry area corresponding to the entry number of the added property entry area.